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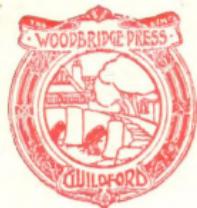


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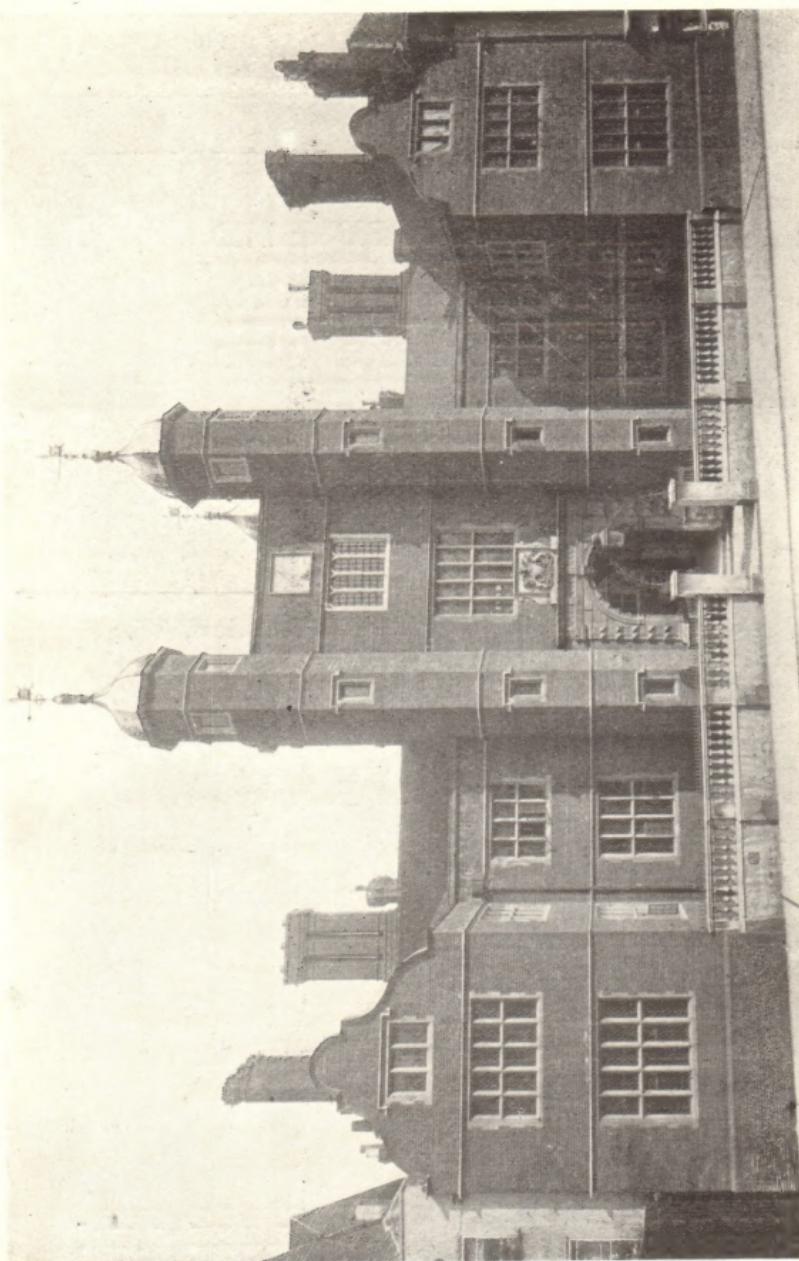
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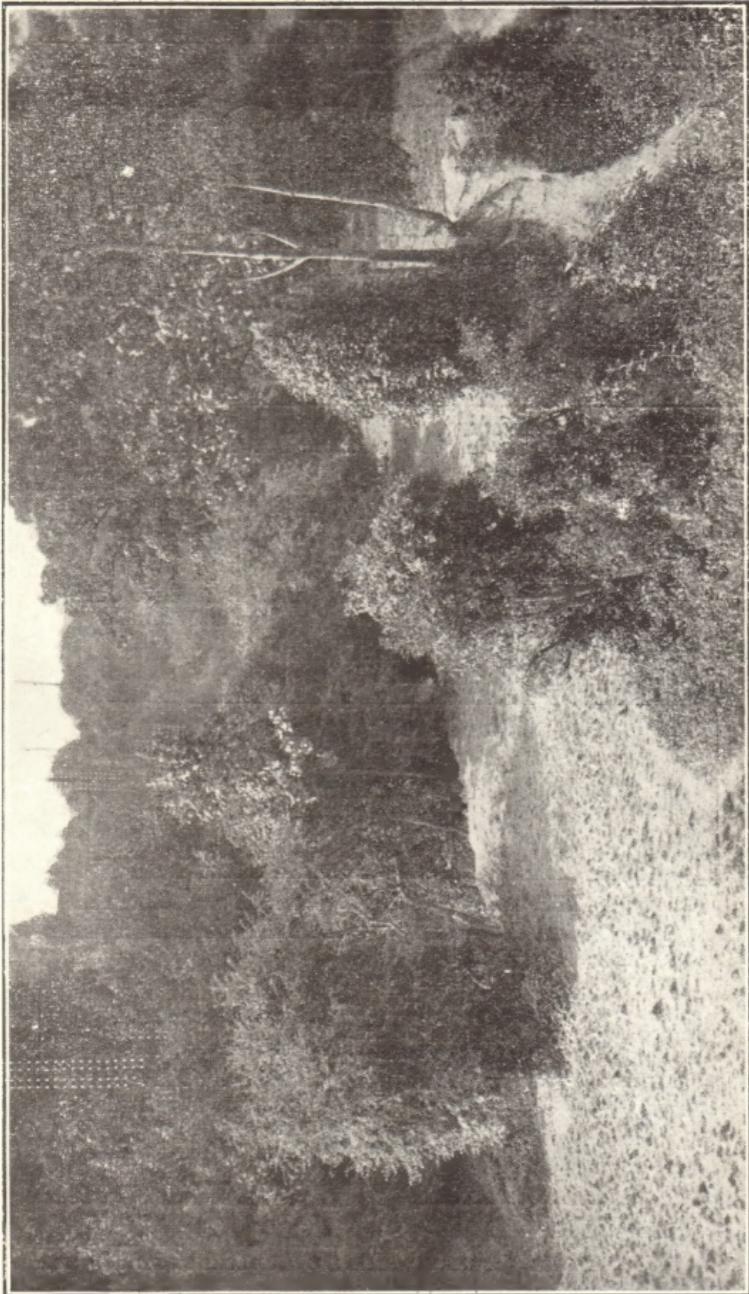
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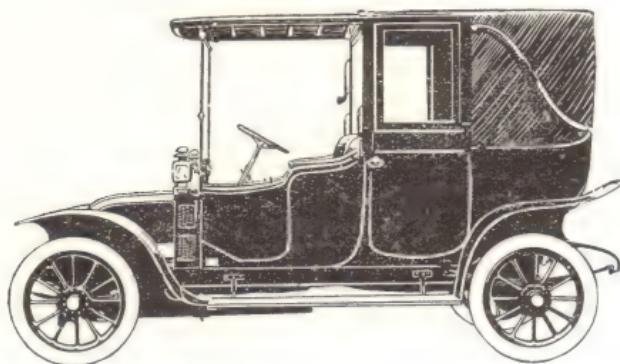
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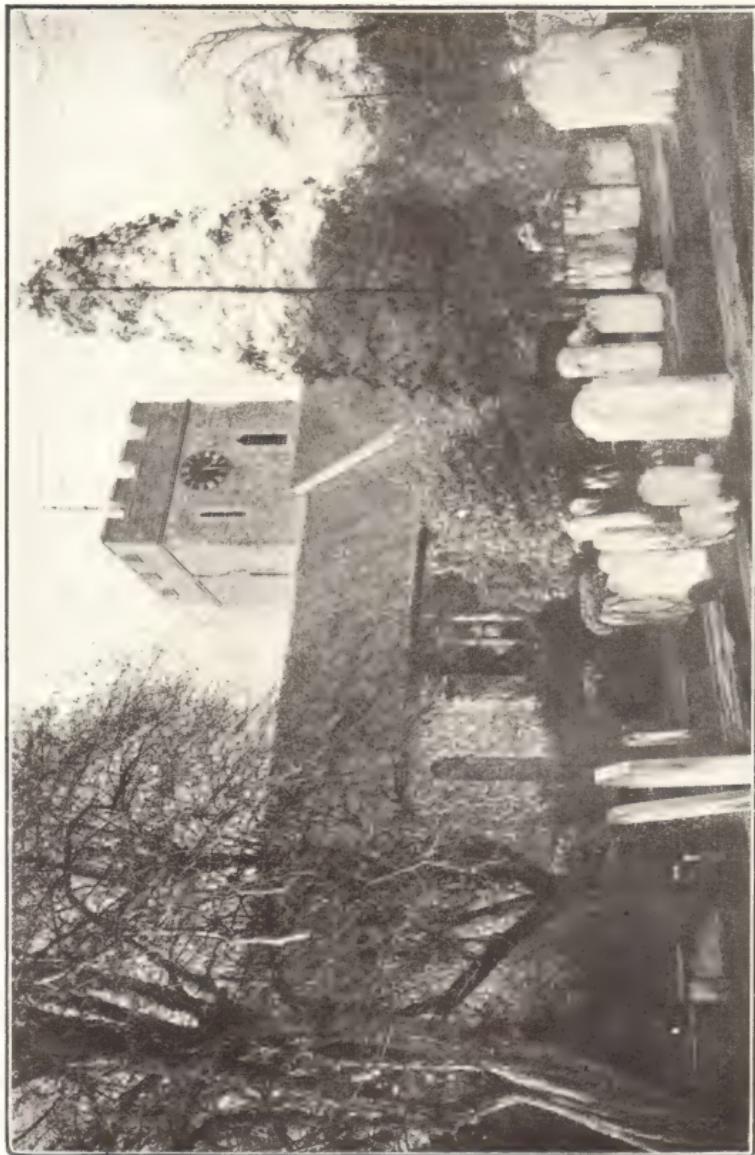
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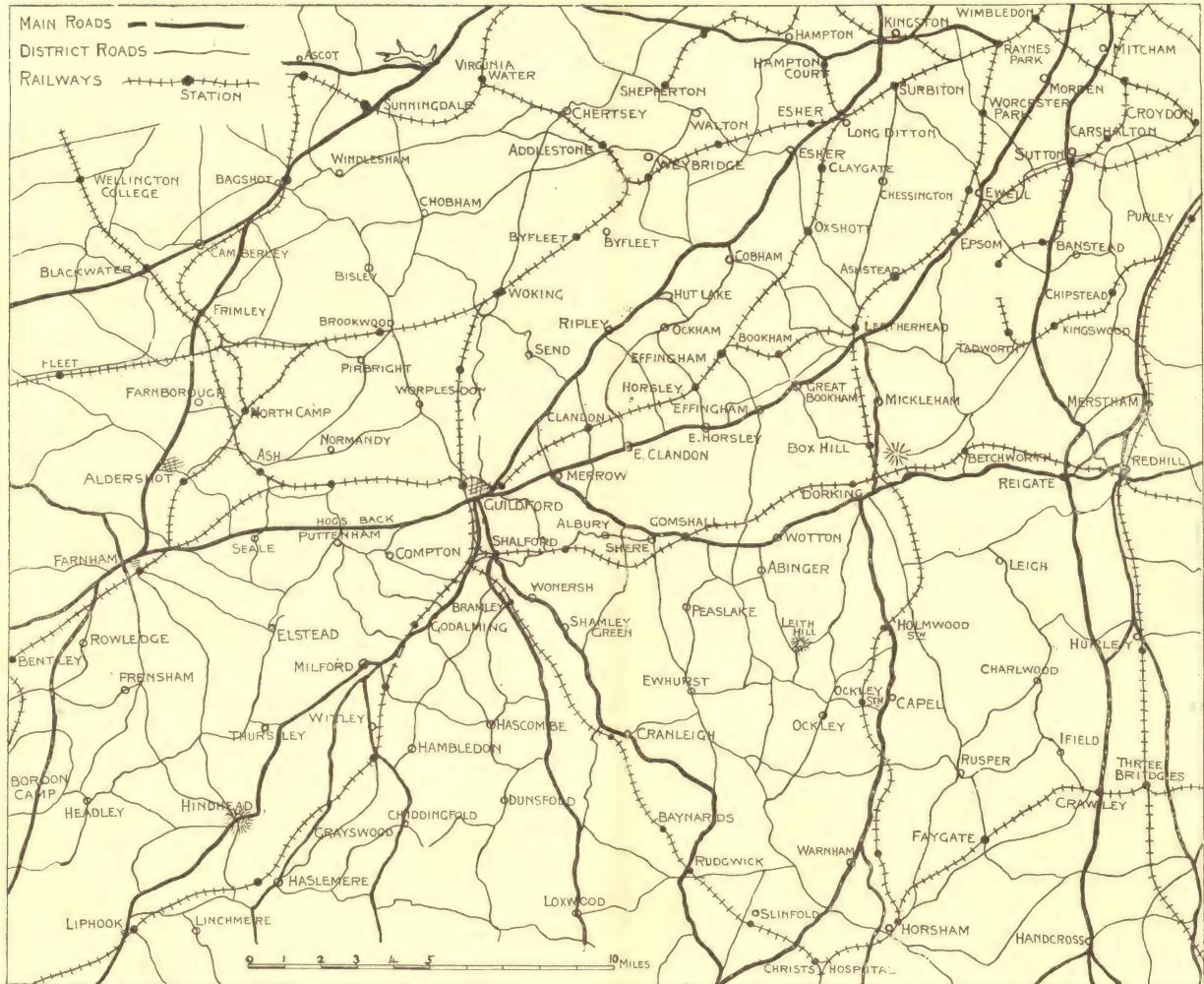
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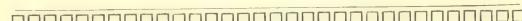
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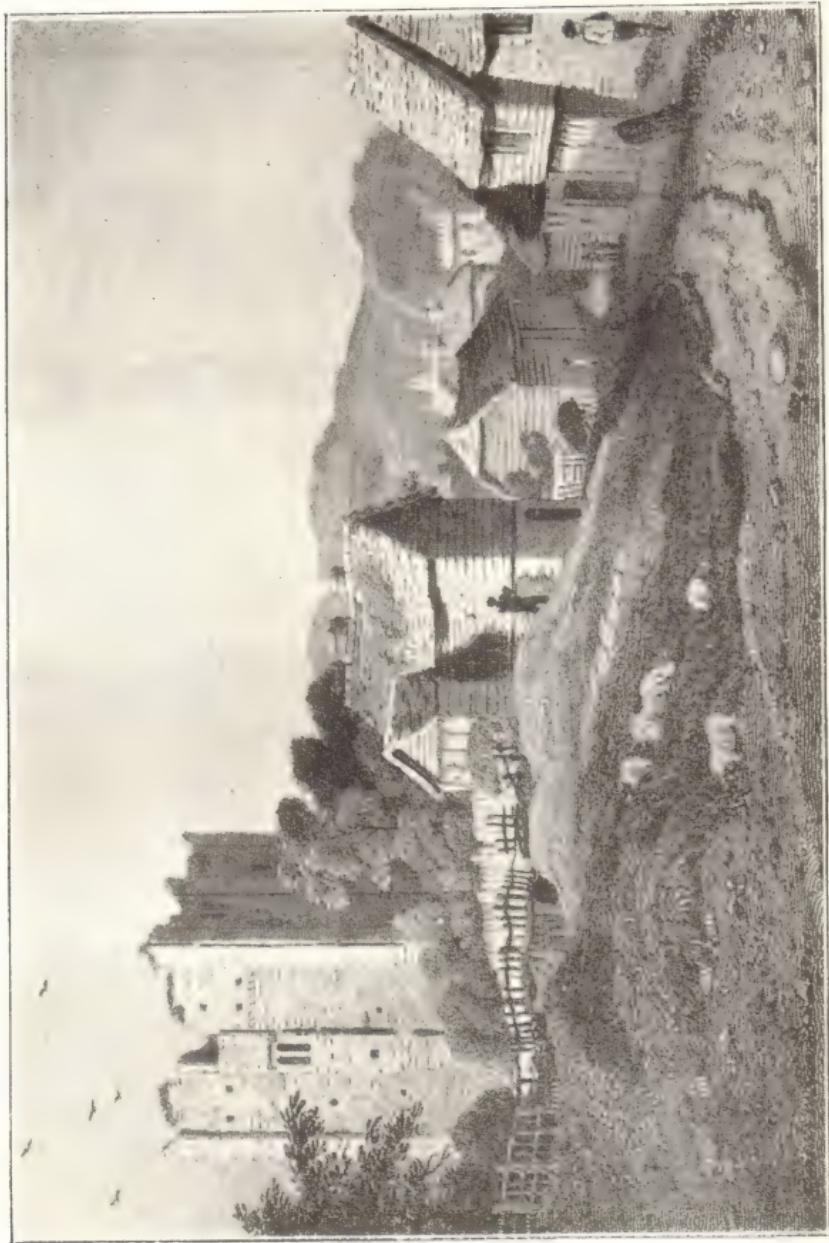
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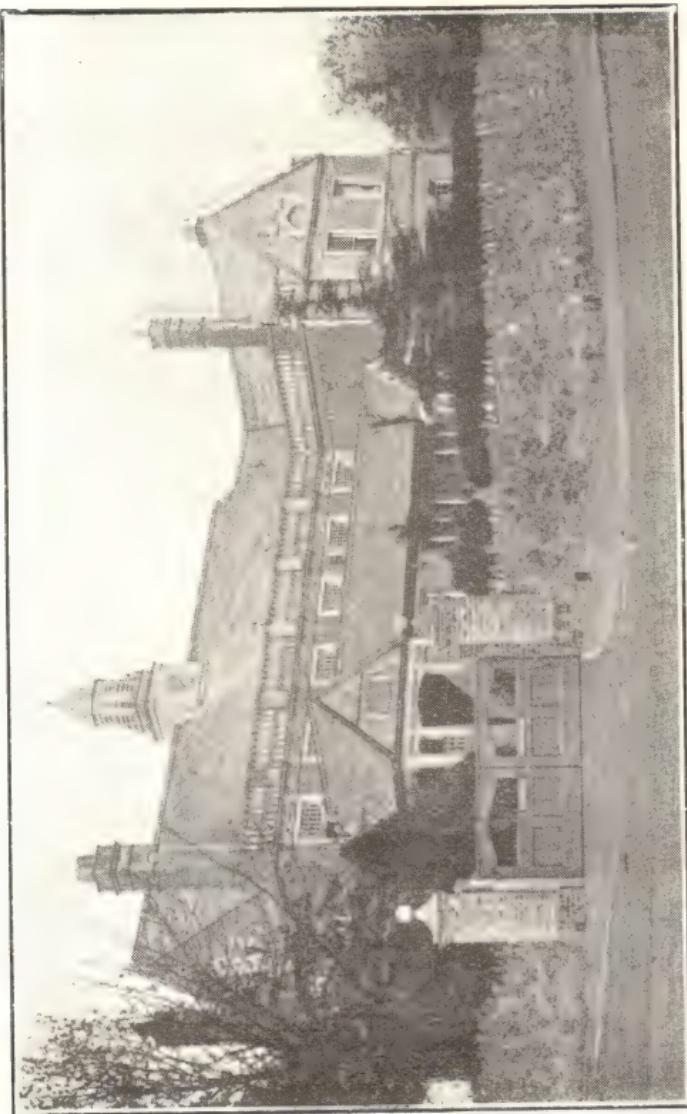
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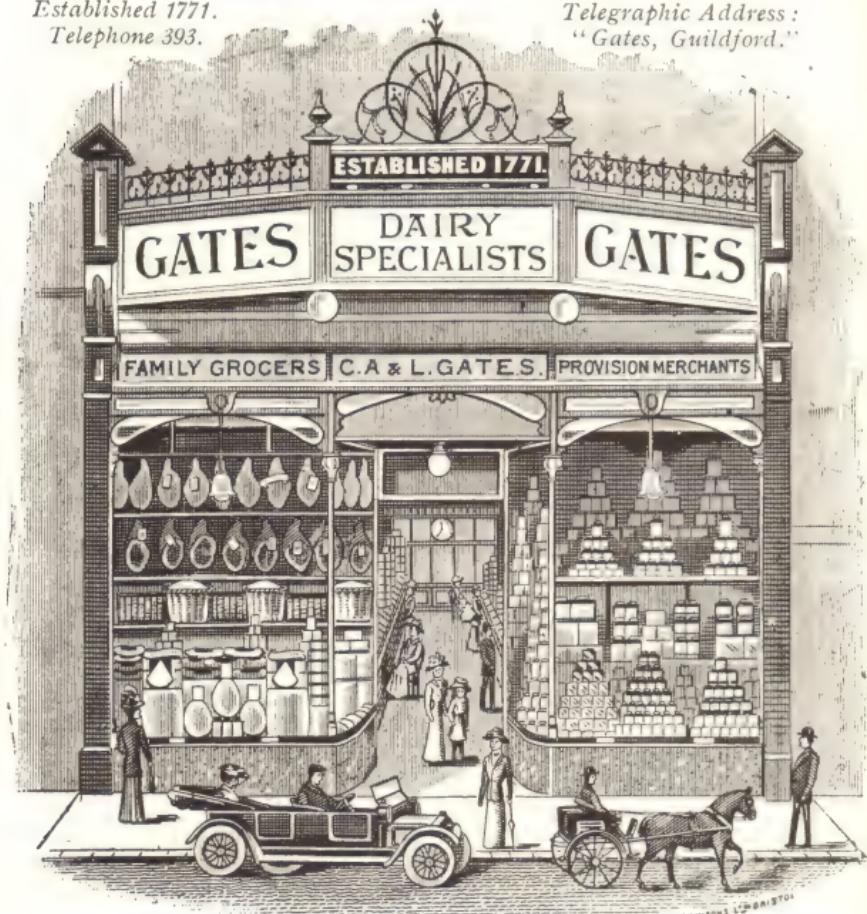
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**THE GUILDHALL.**

## GUILDFORD STATISTICS

POPULATION—25,000.

DEATH RATE—10.8 per 1,000.

EPIDEMIC—.57 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY — 63 per 1,000 births, as compared with 116 for 96 great towns, 112 for the smaller towns, and 96 for the remainder of England and Wales.

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House Agents, etc.—See advts.

## Guildford To-day.

'THE pleasantness of its situation invited kings to spend at Guildford their festival times while they had a palace here.'

So wrote Guildford's first historian a little more than a hundred years ago. And this 'pleasantness of its situation,' which won royal favour for the town when Henry II and John and the earlier Edwards were on the throne, has ever since been one of the chief factors in its growth. To-day it is by no means the least of many reasons why Surrey's capital continues to attract residents and visitors in increasing numbers. And, if you, my friend, happen to be at this moment merely a stranger within our gates, and will saunter with me for but a brief hour or two in and around the town, I think I shall unfailingly convince you that the old kings chose wisely and well when they resolved to spend their 'festival times' here.

Let me take you first to the High Street, to-day, as in the past, the heart and centre of the town—to-day, as in the past, well worthy of the praise so often bestowed

upon it as one of the most picturesque High Streets in the South of England.

### IN HIGH STREET.

If you stand with me beneath the projecting clock of the Guildhall, half way up the steep High Street hill, and turn to the west, you have at your feet the narrow valley in which the Wey meanders slowly towards the Thames. Beyond it, and rising sharply from it, runs the western ridge of downs which link together Guildford and Farnham, and are known far and wide as the Hog's Back. The hillside bears conspicuous evidence of the modern builder's enterprise, but nevertheless the prospect across the valley is sufficiently striking to give you a foretaste of the beauty and variety of the wide tract of country which lies at Guildford's doors.

On the south, the valley of the Wey widens out; and on the farther side of the river—though for the moment we see little of it from our temporary vantage point—the Portsmouth Road leads past Guildown and St. Catherine's Hill—a sandy knoll crowned by a ruined chapel which recalls memories of the Pilgrims' Way—to Godalming and Witley, Hindhead and Haslemere.

Nearer to us, and branching from the south side of the High Street, just before the latter dips right down to the level of the bridge across the Wey, is Quarry Street. This may presently be our road to St. Mary's Church, the oldest and most in-



*Robinson, Guildford.*

THE KEEP.

teresting church in the town; past the Castle Arch, one of the town's many picturesque bits, to Shalford Park, with its magnificent trees, Shalford Church with its remnants of the old stocks, and Shalford Village with its wide and breezy common.

### **THE CASTLE AND THE GUILDHALL.**

Nearer still, in fact almost within a stone's throw although for the moment hidden from our sight, are the old Castle Keep, with its memories of the past, and the Castle Grounds, unsurpassed, as we Guildfordians think, in the southern counties in their attractiveness and interest. The narrow lane almost facing us and known as Tunsgate, which passes beneath the portico of the now disused Corn Market will lead us thither. It will, too, lead us to Warwick's Bench, one of the most attractive outgrowths of the town, with exquisite views across the river valley to Charterhouse and Hindhead, and over the Chantry Woods on toward St. Martha's Hill and the eastern downs.

But for the time being we are not sauntering so far afield as this. Let us turn our thoughts again to the High Street itself. This is not the place to speak of the history of, or the associations which attach to, the Guildhall, by which we took our stand a few minutes ago. But the exterior of this quaint old building will certainly claim our attention. Unless it be in Exeter, do you know any other Guildhall in southern England with greater charm than this? The

projecting clock dial we have, of course, observed. We cannot fail to notice also the carved woodwork which covers the front, the balcony with its grotesque brackets as supports, and the open turret which crowns the whole. Assuredly these



*Robinson, Guildford.* COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL.

are features singularly in keeping with the quaint gables, the overhanging windows and the panelled fronts still characteristic of other buildings in the High Street, despite all the changes which modern enter-

prise and modern needs have brought in their train.

The external appearance stimulates curiosity. We feel at once a desire to inspect the interior. The wish can easily be gratified, for visitors may inspect by application to the Attendant at the Guildhall, or to the Town Clerk's Office, Bridge Street. The Corporation pictures will well repay inspection. In the Hall on the ground floor, where justice is dispensed by the borough magistrates, are two full-length portraits, Charles II and James II (when Duke of York), by Lely; also portraits of Queen Mary and William III, believed to be by John Riley. In the Council Chamber upstairs, famous for its fine oak panelling, which reaches to the ceiling, is a picture of Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Onslow receiving the Dutch flag after the victory at Camperdown, 1797, painted by John Russell, R.A., a Guildford worthy. Another picture of great local interest is the portrait of the Rt. Hon. Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons, which is attributed to Jonathan Richardson, and there is also a portrait of James I by Paul Van Somner. The most curious feature of the Council Chamber is the massive carved chimneypiece brought from Stoughton Manor House. The figures in the four compartments are devised to illustrate different human temperaments—Sanguineus, Cholericus, Phlegmaticus and Melancholicus. The old borough flag should not be overlooked, nor should the complete list

of Guildford Mayors, dating from the year 1326. The town plate is not on view, but may be seen by previous appointment made with the Town Clerk. It includes two maces (one being considered the third oldest in England), Mayor's staff of ebony



*Robinson, Guildford.*

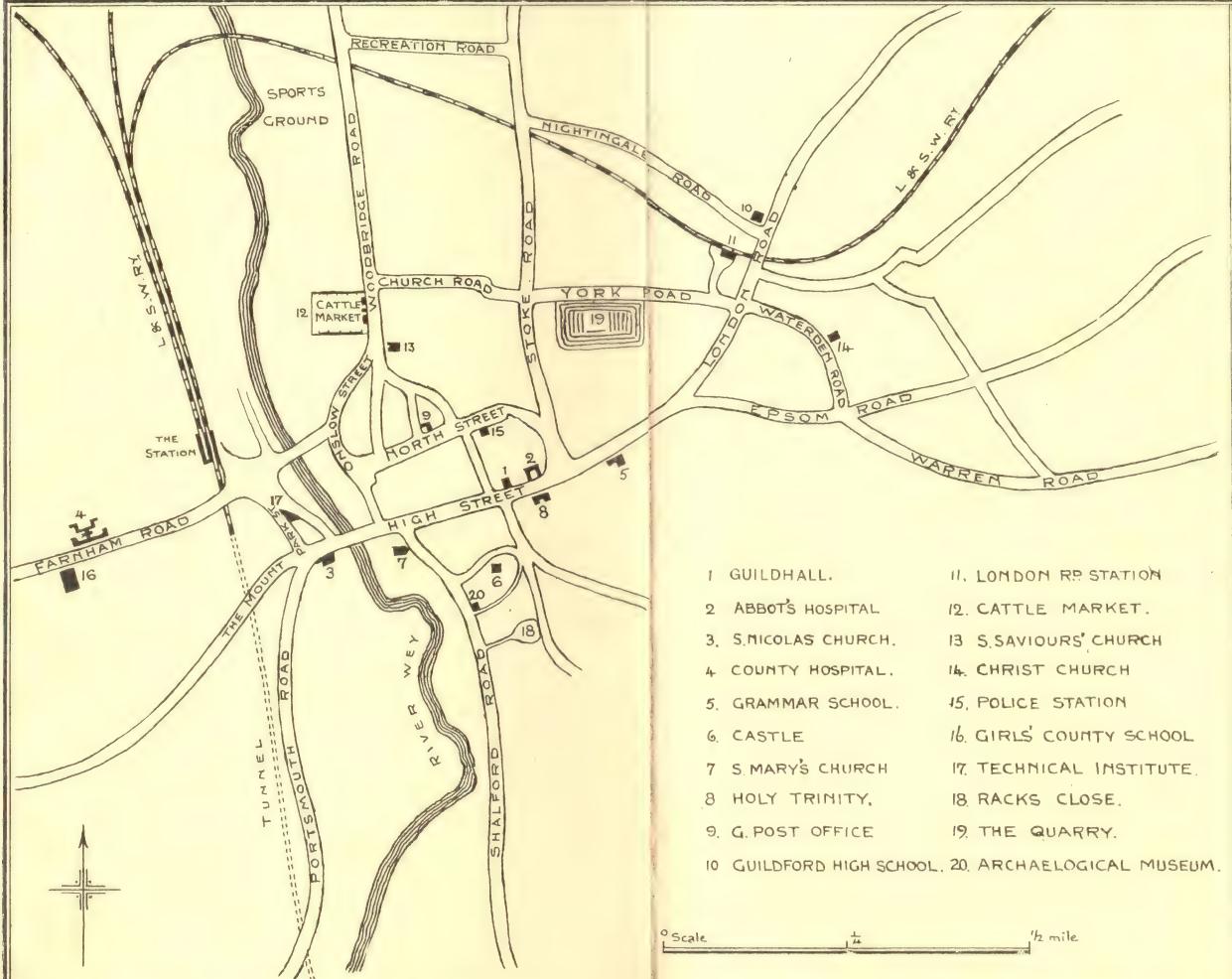
**LOSELEY CHAPEL, ST. NICOLAS' CHURCH.**

and silver, a gift from Queen Elizabeth, silver basin and ewer of same date, Mayor's chain, given by Mr. Arthur Onslow, and a loving cup, the gift of the late Mr. T. W. Powell. Other

objects of interest include the following gifts of Dr. G. C. Williamson : An unique collection of old Guildford traders' tokens, coins, seals and medals. Dr. Williamson also presented the town with a bull-baiting collar (1580-1804) and a 'Guy's' staff, carried by the leader of the 'Guys' in the November riots in 1865. The collar and staff are now in the Museum in Quarry Street.

### THE OLD AND THE NEW.

Perhaps, indeed, nothing is more delightfully and distinctively characteristic of Guildford to-day than this blending of old and new, this mingling of mementoes of bygone days with the outward and visible signs of twentieth-century developments which the High Street so strikingly typifies. As Dr. Williamson is to show us in subsequent pages, the town's records are full of interest, and here in the High Street scarce a house can be passed or a foot of ground trodden that cannot claim some interesting link with the past. And yet, as you and I traverse it to-day in the bright sunshine of a summer afternoon, it is full also of the briskness and rich colour of all the activities of modern life. Town life and municipal life centre here; and here, too, we are on one of the main arteries of road traffic in the age of the motor as in the old coaching days. Our High Street is a fragment of the main road which led and leads from London to Portsmouth and the southern coast.



STREET PLAN OF GUILDFORD.

Scale

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{1}{2}$  mile

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*Robinson, Guildford.*

ABBOT'S HOSPITAL—THE COURTYARD.

It is fully time, however, that we turned our attention eastward if our saunter is to become a reality. Going farther up the hill we pass the 'Crown' (now part of Messrs. Simpson's establishment) facing which until recently stood the 'White Hart' (now Mr. Sainsbury's). In years gone by these were two of the leading inns, and were the recognised headquarters of the two great political parties. Beneath their windows many a stirring election scene has been witnessed.

#### **ABBOT AND HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.**

Then we come almost immediately to Holy Trinity Church and the stately red brick Jacobean building opposite, known as Abbot's Hospital, the permanent memorial of the Puritan Archbishop's unchanging affection for his native town. Step for a moment into the church to inspect the imposing monument erected to the Archbishop's honour by his brother, Sir Maurice Abbot, and to note also the cenotaph to the memory of Speaker Arthur Onslow, the most distinguished member of another family closely connected with the town. And on leaving the church let us cross to the handsome old oak gates beneath the lofty tower of Abbot's Hospital, and glance, however hurriedly, at the quadrangle overlooked by the rooms of the brethren and the sisters for whose old age Abbot made such kindly provision.

## THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Continuing our course eastward, and passing Chertsey Street on our left, we soon discern the stone front of the admirably restored Grammar School, with which the name of Edward VI is inseparably con-



*Robinson, Guildford.*

## QUADRANGLE, GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

nected. The King, be it understood, however, was not the original founder of the school; he simply added to the benefaction of Robert Beckingham, who died in 1509. The school, with its mullioned windows, small gables and old door and knocker, has

a collegiate look, and this impression is deepened if we step within the very small quadrangle which its buildings enclose.

A few doors farther on is Somerset House, named because it was used by the Duke of Somerset a century or more ago as his stopping place on his frequent journeys between London and Petworth. Presently we reach the point at which Guildford High Street ends, or, to be more accurate, splits up into the main roads known respectively as the 'London Road' and the 'Epsom Road.' Here, too, in this direction old Guildford ends. Yet the spot at which we have arrived has its historic associations, for it is close to the site of the ancient 'spital' or hospital of St. Thomas, belonging to the Crutched or Red Cross Friars. All traces of its foundation have, however, long since disappeared, and either the London or the Epsom Roads will now lead us through a modern and most pleasant residential portion of the town, stretching from the London Road Railway Station and Stoke Park on the one hand to the heights of Pewley Hill and the slopes of Merrow Downs on the other.

So far we have traversed together but a single street in Guildford, and given but a passing glance at its chief points of interest! Much still remains to be explored if we have the time and will.

#### **TO STOKE AND STOUGHTON.**

North of High Street, and approached either by Chertsey Street or Friary Street

and Woodbridge Road, lies a somewhat thickly populated part of Stoke parish. Through this we may make our way to the old Parish Church of Stoke, with its memorial window to Sir George Colley, and its mural monument to Charlotte Smith,



*Robinson, Guildford.*

#### THE CRYPT, ANGEL HOTEL.

authoress of 'The Old Manor House,' whose father was lord of the manor of Stoke. And beyond the church, on higher ground, we should find ourselves at Stoughton with its barracks, the extreme northern boundary of the borough.

## IN NORTH STREET.

If this longer exploration must perforce be deferred, let us turn our faces westward. We can retrace our steps along the High Street until we reach Chertsey Street, from which, on the left, North Street immediately branches off to run parallel with the High Street to the foot of the hill. In North Street will be found several of the modern public buildings of the town, the General Post Office, the Police Station, the Theatre Royal and County and Borough Hall, and the Congregational and Wesleyan Churches. At its western end Onslow Street on our right will lead us over the Onslow Bridge to the Junction Railway Station. On our left Friary Street, whose name preserves the memory of the old Guildford home of the Black Friars or Dominicans, brings us back to the foot of the High Street hill.

## ST. NICOLAS' AND MILLMEAD.

Let us cross the bridge, stop for a brief minute or two to examine the richly decorated interior of St. Nicolas' Church—the third church on this somewhat dubious river-side site—and to inspect the Loseley Chapel within it, which has been wisely saved from destruction throughout these rebuildings. Then, avoiding both the very stiff climb up the Hog's Back by the Mount, the Old Farnham Road, and the main Portsmouth Road, which branches off on the left, let us turn sharply by St. Nicolas' along the narrow lane to Mill-

mead. The view which almost immediately opens out before us is, as has well been said, one of the quaintest and most picturesque to be found in any town in England. At our feet runs the Wey, here split into two streams. One of these feeds



*Shawcross, Guildford.*

FOOTERIDGE, QUARRY HILL.

the Town Mill—an old corn mill, now the property of the Corporation, and used in connection with the water works—whose red tiled roof gives to the scene a touch of warm colour, which is deepened and strengthened by the old red brick houses

just above, that cluster round St. Mary's Church and its grey tower. Peering above them is the Castle Keep, while, as an impressive background, the chalk downs rise steeply behind, and direct the eye to Warwick's Bench and Pewley Hill. Once seen, especially in the bright hues of a summer sunset, this view will not be speedily forgotten.

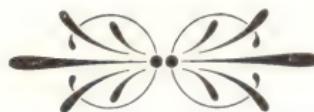
We may follow the course of the Wey either by the towing path, passing the recently-erected oak footbridge, or by turning to the right along the Portsmouth Road itself, with Guildown bounding it on its western side, until we reach St. Catherine's Hill. Here we may ferry to the opposite bank, and cross the meadows to reach the Shalford Road, just by the entrance to Shalford Park, or we may return by the towing path and cross the footbridge to Shalford Road.

Turning to the left, we presently reach the Castle Arch (through which we should pass, if time permits us, and visit the Guildford Borough and Surrey Archaeological Society's Museum in the Castle precincts), and then Quarry Street speedily brings us to St. Mary's Church and the lower slope of the High Street at Star Corner.

St. Mary's, however, must not be overlooked *en route*. Archaeologically, this church is distinctly the most interesting which Guildford possesses to-day; late Norman in its main portions, it has received many later additions and alterations,

and the ‘low side’ or ‘leper window,’ the three different levels on which the church is built, and the traces still discernible of the ancient frescoes on the walls of St. John’s Chapel are all features which deserve the notice of the most casual observer.

At Star Corner our brief saunter in and around the town may conveniently conclude. We have, of course, merely given a hurried glance at its chief and most obvious features. Closer exploration of its many picturesque nooks and corners will assuredly persuade you that its by-ways are not less attractive or interesting than the main thoroughfares on which our time has so far been principally bestowed.



# Guildford as it Was.

FROM 'Guildford to-day' let us turn to 'Guildford as it was,' and, by looking a little into its history, let us seek to form some idea of what the town used to be.

Of the original Anglo-Saxon town, part of the personal estate of King Alfred, and by him bequeathed to Ethelwald, his nephew, or of the land of the Norman King referred to in Domesday Book, we can, indeed, say but little. It seems probable that, on the east side of the river, there was in those days little more than the Castle, with its outlying buildings, and the small residences of its tenants.

## IN EARLY DAYS.

It is believed that the original town was on the west of the river, a tiny little hamlet inhabited chiefly by weavers, dyers, and fullers of cloth, who resided in a few cottages clustered round the spot where now stands St. Nicolas' Church. The original church on that site is said to have had a round tower, and may perchance have been an Anglo-Saxon building.

Whether or not in such early times there was a fortification on the spot now covered by the Castle Keep is a matter of conjecture. But, in the time of Henry II, there certainly was a building suitable for a residence, in which the King kept his



*Lanham, Guildford.*

THE CASTLE ARCH.

Christmas, and received the Legate of Pope Urban II, when he came to bestow the Crown of Ireland on Prince John.

Possibly the present Keep goes back to that remote period, but portions of the outlying buildings may have been older still.

Not far from the Keep stood the Church of St. Mary, and its tower, the oldest remaining portion of the building, is believed to be of Saxon workmanship, or at least erected by Englishmen, probably before the time of the Conquest. Doubtless it was part of the original place of worship for those who lived in the Castle—a fortified tower, to which very likely was attached a nave, built of wood or wattle. Outside the Castle walls, there gradually grew up a small community of traders, who had settled down under the shelter of the fortress, and who served the great lord resident within its walls ; and the numerous persons who formed his tenantry and attendants. They also required a place of worship, and in the thirteenth century we hear of a church on the site now covered by the Church of Holy Trinity, doubtless erected for their convenience.

Somewhat in this way began the growth of the town, which is still divided into three parishes, and in this division the threefold history of the place is handed down.

### THE OLD HIGH STREET.

It would seem probable that the High Street, at one time a narrow lane, was widened when some of the Castle buildings were demolished, and it is possible that



*Robinson, Guildford.*

ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

many of the present houses in that street were erected from the materials used for such buildings.

### CHARTERED RIGHTS.

The little community of cloth fullers down by the river possessed trading qualifications and sufficient position to demand chartered rights, and, as early as 1256, we have the record of a charter being granted to them by Henry III. It is quite evident, however, that this was not the first of such privileges, for, when a year earlier Kingston received its first charter, reference was made in it to the Guildford charter, and the Kingston grant was based upon the arrangements made in the older neighbouring town.

The chartered privileges of Guildford continued to be increased by Edward III and other monarchs, and in 1488, in Henry VII's charter, we first hear of the Mayor of the town.

### IN TUDOR TIMES.

In Elizabeth's time we find references to the Guildhall, and to its enlargement, and, in 1683, the front of the existing Guildhall was erected, and part of the old building dating back to the time of Elizabeth left *in situ*.

In Tudor times, indeed, and perhaps right down to the Stuart period, the town must have been a very small place, although a prosperous one. Its wool industry was important: it traded with Venice, with Spain, and with France, and

its blue cloth was highly esteemed on the Continent. It managed its own affairs, under very scrupulous regulations, valuing its privileges exceedingly highly.

It was a little trading community of the exclusive sort, and jealously retained the right to prevent any person outside its borders setting up in business within the limits of the town. So much was this the case, that as far down as 1683 the officials refused permission to a certain John Aylward to set up in business as a clockmaker, inasmuch as he was not a Guildford man, and the worthy man had to retire outside the limits of the Borough, and there he and his son in their workshop made the present town clock, and by presenting it to the governing body, for their newly-fronted Guildhall, acquired their freedom and the right to trade.

The High Street in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries was no doubt even more picturesque than it is at present. It contained practically all the trade of the place, the two parallel streets, North Street and South Street, then known as Upper and Lower Back Side, being little more than narrow lanes between gardens.

The old timber-built houses had high pointed gables, and the upper windows overhung the footpath. There were projecting signs, many of them of wrought ironwork, made in the neighbouring county, and on the swinging boards were exhibited the devices which told of the trade of the place.

There was a Maypole at the farther end of the town, and a summer pole near the middle of the High Street. In the centre of the narrow street stood the Fish Cross, opposite to what is now the Angel Hotel, while higher up, near to Holy Trinity Church, an old market house blocked the way. The bridge was narrow, and the houses crept right up to it, one of them, in fact, being actually on the bridge.

There was one big inn, the ‘Red Lion,’ and, where Market Street now is, were the gardens and orchards belonging to this inn, well stored with wall and standard fruit trees, and richly cultivated with vegetables of every sort, as the old sale particulars of the place inform us. At the end of the gardens there was the Cockpit, whilst the stabling could accommodate 200 horses, and was often full, especially during race week.

Then, as now, the little town stood on the highway to Portsmouth, and many post chaises passed through it. Pepys, the old gossip, tells us, in 1661, how he came to Guildford to the ‘Red Lion,’ and ‘lay in the room the King lately lay in,’ how he went to see the Hospital, and the Free School, and the tomb of Archbishop Abbot, and what time he passed in the inn garden cutting asparagus for supper—‘the best,’ says he, ‘that ever I ate in my life, but in this same house last year.’

#### **RELIGIOUS HOUSES.**

The old home of the Dominican Friars in the town had disappeared in the time of



From 'Guildford in the Olden Time'] THE FRIARY, 1816. [By permission of Dr. Williamson.

Pepys. It had been founded in the thirteenth century, to commemorate the death of Prince Henry, the son of Edward I and Queen Eleanor, who died in Guildford in 1274, and a good deal of historical interest had been connected with the old place. It stood upon ground near the offices of the *Surrey Times*, and its gardens covered the land near the new bridge, and extended to the other side of the river, where a record of the friars' walnut trees still remains in the name of the district, Walnut Tree Close. Henry VI and the Royal Family had lodged in the building, and Henry VIII and his Chancellor had visited it, while one of the deeds authorising the dissolution of the smaller religious houses was drafted within its walls, and signed at the parsonage house of St. Nicolas, where at that moment the King was staying.

In this Friary was signed the Treaty with Scotland on Aug. 2, 1534, when the ambassador from that country, the Abbot of Kinross, came to meet Henry VIII at the Black Friars' in Guildford, and a stately company, guests of the friars, gathered together to welcome him, including the Bishop of Winchester, the Duke of Norfolk and the Earl of Northumberland.

Nothing of that old building now remains, but a good deal of its stone-work can yet be seen built into Shalford House, which was erected by George Austen, in the seventeenth century, from materials of the old Friary. Its name is still perpetuated when people talk of Friary Street, and

probably the windows in Abbot's Hospital Chapel, or at least a part of them, came from the church in which the friars used to worship.

### A PICTURESQUE OLD TOWN.

Other interesting buildings have long ago passed away. As already noted (page 52), there was a religious house, belonging to the Crutched Friars, at the upper end of the town, opposite to the Maypole, close to Whitehall, and there was a Carmelite house in the centre of the town, to which, in

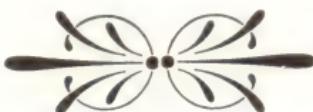


*Robinson, Guildford.*

COMPTON PARISH CHURCH.

all probability, the two crypts in the High Street belonged.

Away down to the eighteenth century the little town must have retained its picturesque appearance. The old Grammar School, one of the earliest in the kingdom, has always looked grey and venerable, and has had good cause to be proud of its boys, including, as they do, an Archbishop, six Bishops, a Speaker, and two Lord Mayors. The date of 1553 may be seen over its doors, but it was founded many years before that date through the benefactions of Robert Beckingham, who died in 1509. The coach office in North Street, at which such a succession of London coaches stopped, and which partly stood on wooden pillars, reaching well into the street, must have been a quaint and pretty building ; and the old mail office, to which came the first letters that reached the town, must have been a familiar object in the High Street. Messrs. Salsbury & Sons' shop at the corner of Swan Lane now occupies its position, and incorporates some of the older building.



# Guildford's Environs.

## (1) FOOTPATH RAMBLES.

NOT the least of Guildford's charms lies unquestionably in the fact that it is set in the midst of beautiful country, to which the rambler can gain easy access by footpath or sequestered lane. A few, though by no means all, of these rambles are indicated in the following brief notes.

(a) The Mount—the steep thoroughfare which rises immediately from the foot of the High Street hill, on the western side of the Wey—leads the way, for example, to the old grass-covered coach road now known as the *Old Farnham Road*, which runs along the crest of the Hog's Back for a mile or more. On the left we look across the valley, to the woods of Loseley and the spires of Charterhouse with Hindhead and Blackdown in the distance. On the right a wide vista opens out, in which the country round Woking and Aldershot, Pirbright and Fleet, will be easily recognised. Just where the old road joins the new Farnham Road, with a disused turnpike house to mark the spot, a footpath on our left leads down the hill to Sandy Lane and Loseley. At the foot of this, we may either turn to the right for Compton and Puttenham, or to the left for Guildford, Sandy Lane, in

the latter case, bringing us into the Portsmouth Road, just by St. Catherine's Hill.

(b) An alternative route from the town is by the towpath to *St. Catherine's*, whose ruins are well worth a visit. From St. Catherine's Hill we obtain a glimpse of the manor house of Brabœuf, on the opposite side of the Portsmouth Road; and from here, too, we may easily make our way to *Loseley*, one of the most interesting specimens of Elizabethan domestic architecture in Surrey, by the footpath which branches off on the left a short distance up *Sandy Lane*.

(c) Quarry Street, again, will lead us speedily from the centre of the town to one of the most favourite rambles in the neighbourhood. Soon after passing the river footbridge, and almost immediately opposite the entrance to Shalford Park, we bear sharply to the left, under a magnificent avenue of trees. Presently we observe, on the left, the picturesque cottage known as Cider Press Cottage, and, almost immediately afterwards, find ourselves at the entrance to the *Chantry Woods*. Here a well-defined sandy path leads to Halfpenny Lane, at the foot of *St. Martha's Hill*. A few yards up the lane, the path continues to the hilltop crowned with the rebuilt church of St. Martha. This marks one of the most interesting spots in the neighbourhood, for we have in fact been following the old Pilgrims' Way, and St. Martha's—a corruption, probably, of *Martyr*—was

ST. MARTHA'S, FROM PEWLEY HILL.

H. Fenton Phillips, Guilford.



always a place of note in the great pilgrimage to Canterbury. The view hence is, undoubtedly, one of the most picturesque in the immediate neighbourhood of Guildford. Farther east lie the villages of Albury and Shere. Our path, indeed, if we continue farther eastward, will take us nearly all the way to the *Silent Pool*, a sequestered, tree-embowered lakelet, with a romantic tradition attached to it, which Martin Tupper used with effect in '*Stephan Langton.*' Or the return to Guildford from St. Martha's may be made by the clearly marked and easily seen footpath across the fields which leads to Pewley Hill.

(d) Chantry Woods, it should be noted, may also be reached from the centre of the town by Tunsgate (opposite the Guildhall), South Hill and a newly constructed road across *Warwick's Bench*. From the last-named, a particularly pleasant view of the Wey and the southern and western portions of Guildford is obtainable.

(e) Another footpath route, which should not be missed, is that which leads from the top of Pewley Hill, past the fort, and, keeping then on the crest of the hill, makes straight for the Merrow and Albury Downs, and *Newland's Corner*. Pewley Hill itself may be reached *via* Tunsgate, turning sharp to the left, just by the Bowling Green entrance to the Castle Grounds, or *via* Epsom Road, Jenner Road and Semaphore Road. The *Merrow Downs*, which have happily been preserved from desecration, under a scheme of regulation approved by

the Board of Agriculture, are by no means wholly given over to the golfer; 'The Roughs,' or, as it is more poetically known, 'Fairyland,' presents indeed a particularly pleasant picture when the hawthorn is in blossom. The venerable yew trees, which are a conspicuous feature of the downs, have their place in history, for they furnished the bows which helped English



*Robinson, Guildford.*

MERROW.

archers to gain undying fame at Crecy and Agincourt. On the northern slopes of the downs, too, may still be pointed out the site of old Guildford Race-course.

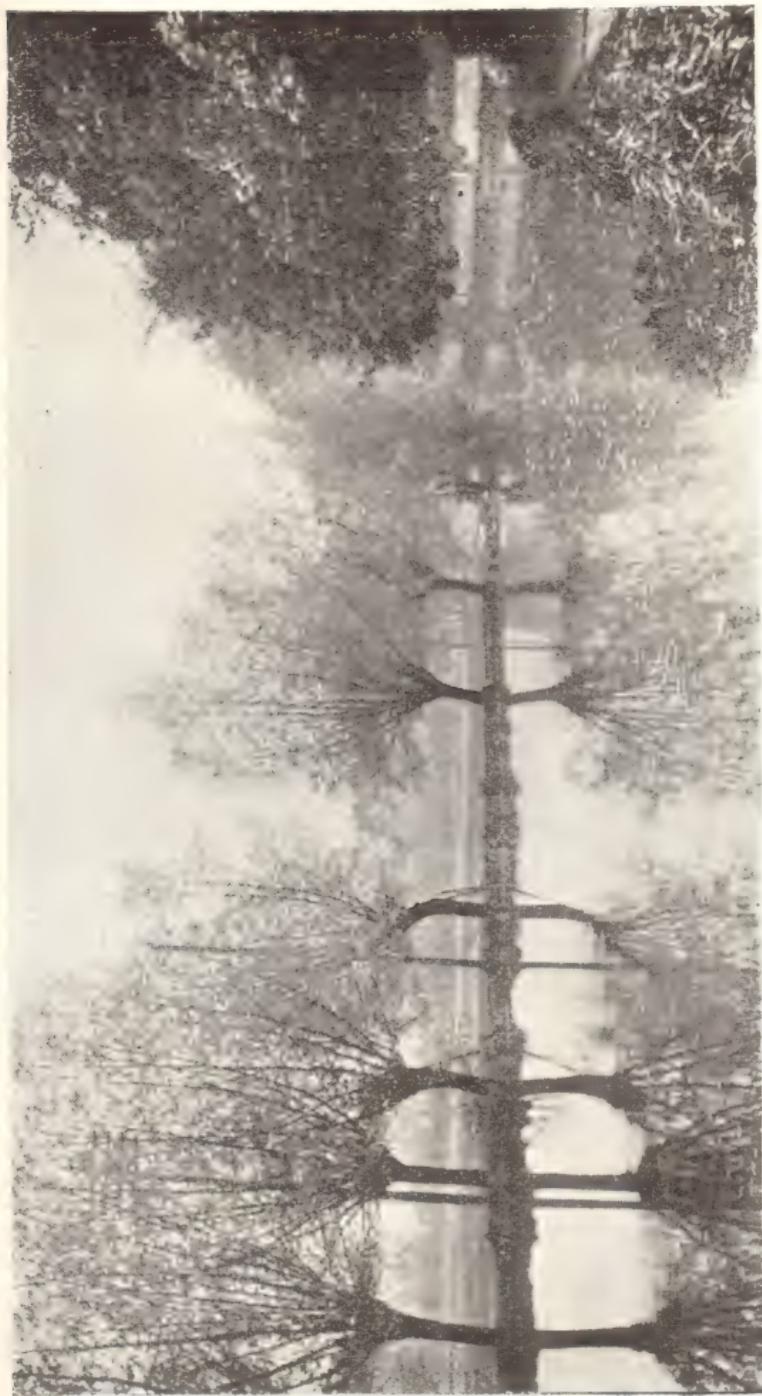
Merrow Downs may be reached from the Epsom or Merrow Road, either by Warren Road and Union Lane, or a mile farther on by Down Road and High Path Road.

(f) Nearer still to the town, a footpath from the London Road, through Stoke Park, leads down to the Wey Valley and to the ivy-covered church of St. John, 'Old Stoke Church,' to give it its familiar name. The church, by-the-bye, contains memorials to Dr. Price, the last of the alchemists, Charlotte Smith, and Sir G. Pomeroy Colley.

## (2) THE RIVER.

Every year the Wey grows in popularity with boating folk. Some reaches of the river, easily accessible from Guildford, are of great beauty and attractiveness; and the boating man who rejoices to be free from steam launches, and to be 'far from the madding crowd,' will certainly enjoy a few hours' quiet sculling on the Wey. A trip to *Newark Abbey*, starting preferably below Stoke Bridge if possible, is well worth making. A glimpse of Sutton House, so rich in architectural and historic interest, may be gained *en route*; and beyond Trigg's Lock and Send we get a good view of the ruins of one of the most interesting abbeys in Surrey. The energetic sculler, who cares to do so, can make his way on beyond Newark to Weybridge, *via* Byfleet and Addlestone.

A shorter trip in the opposite direction can be made through Millmead to Unstead Mill, passing St. Catherine's on our right, and Shalford on our left. An excellent view of Guildford, with the Castle Keep appearing to dominate the town, is obtained from this stretch of the river.



THE WEY, GUILDFORD.

*Robinson, Guildford.*

### (3) PICTURESQUE VILLAGES.

The remarkable increase, witnessed during the past 10 or 15 years, in the popularity of West Surrey as a residential district is, of course, evident in many ways. Happily, however, this development, for the most part, has left untouched the rustic beauty and picturesqueness of the villages of the district. In the majority of cases, they retain to-day much of the quaint charm and rural attractiveness which could have been claimed for them half a century ago. Many of them are still the home of the artist and still appeal to the nature lover.

If, for example, we first turn our steps eastward and explore the Tillingbourne Valley, we shall find ourselves amidst 'quiet English scenery in its highest form of perfection.' *Chilworth*, of which we have already had a glimpse from St. Martha's Hill, is by no means seriously disfigured by the Gunpowder Works on the banks of the stream. A prettier spot, indeed, could hardly be named than Postford Pond, which we pass on our left on the road to Albury.

*Albury* itself is full of interest as well as of beauty. If possible, a visit should be paid to the old Parish Church, now dismantled and deserted, within the confines of the Duke of Northumberland's park. The visitor, too, is sure to notice the 'Cathedral' or church of the Catholic Apostolic Church, of which body Albury, with its connections with Henry Drummond and Edward Irving, may be said to

have been the birthplace. Near at hand, too, is the Silent Pool.

A path through Albury Park takes us on our way to *Shere*, essentially one of the prettiest villages in Surrey. The church, the Tillingbourne, the old cottages, the rich foliage of the valley and the bold bluff outline of the chalk downs on the north com-



*Robinson, Gulgford.*

IN SHERE VILLAGE.

bine to give Shere a variety of beauty which it is indeed hard to equal elsewhere. The church shows plainly enough that it has undergone at various times much alteration and reparation, but retains many features of interest.

Still farther east, we come next to the hamlet of *Gomshall*, and then to *Abinger*

*Hammer*, whose name recalls the Hammer Ponds connected with the extinct Surrey iron industry ; and thence to *Wotton*, with its memories of Evelyn. From Gomshall, too, *Holmbury St. Mary* is within easy reach.

If, on the other hand, we turn our steps westward from Guildford, and follow the line of the Hog's Back towards Farnham, a particularly interesting series of villages will be visited. *Compton* is not only sweetly picturesque ; it is rightly famous both for its remarkable old church, with a two-storeyed chancel, and for its associations with the late Mr. G. F. Watts, O.M., R.A. During the closing years of his life, Mr. Watts spent much of his time at Limnerslease, and the villagers are fortunate in possessing two unique and abiding memorials of his residence in their midst. In the gallery adjoining the Hostel, a representative collection of Mr. Watts' work is now permanently open to the public. Richly stored with treasures the great artist has left behind—it contains over 120 pictures, including many of Mr. Watts' early studies—this gallery is of such exceptional interest that it has become quite a place of pilgrimage, thousands of visitors being annually attracted to it. Certainly no one who makes Guildford a centre for a holiday, or chooses it as his place of abode, should miss the opportunity of seeing the Watts' Picture Gallery. It is within easy walking distance of the county town. The

Gallery is open free to the public on Bank Holidays and every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday ; on Monday, Tuesday and Friday a charge of 1/- is made for admission. The Gallery is not open on Thursday. In addition, Compton Mortuary Chapel, a



*Robinson, Guildford]. MORTUARY CHAPEL, COMPTON.*

building of brick and terra-cotta, which crowns a knoll within a stone's throw of Limnerslease, is not only a striking proof of the revived taste for, and skill in, home arts and crafts, but also successfully embodies an endeavour to ' tell the story, or

at least some fragments of the story, of the spiritual life.' As Mrs. Watts writes : 'As far as possible, every bit of the decoration of this chapel has something to say, though the pictures can claim to be no more than the letters of a great word.'

Beyond Compton, crossing Puttenham Heath, with its golf links, and its memories of a visit by the late Queen, we come to *Puttenham Village*, with its picturesquely placed church and its curious caves. Farther west still is *Seale*, where again the church, with a magnificent elm as one of the features of its trim churchyard, will well repay a visit.

Another interesting line of country is open to us if we follow the route of the Horsham branch of the London and Brighton Railway from Guildford. *Bramley*, with an interesting church, and the adjacent village of *Wonersh*, once noted for its cloth weaving and dyeing industry, will be our first stopping place. Thence we proceed to *Cranleigh*, whose breezy common and pleasant surroundings explain its growth in popular favour. Here, too, is Cranleigh School, which owes so much to the munificent help of Lord Ashcombe, and to the good work of its headmasters, past and present. More secluded and rural than Cranleigh is *Ewhurst*, which,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles farther on, peacefully reposes under the shadow of Pitch Hill. From here, too, we can, if we choose, make our way by a stiffish climb to *Holmbury St. Mary*, with

its lovely modern church, among the pines. An alternative route back to Guildford will be found by descending to Shere, and thence along the Tillingbourne Valley as before described.



*Robinson, Guildford.*

SHERE—OLD COTTAGES.

Ripley and Cobham, on the London and Portsmouth Road, are too well known to call for description, and both, of course, are within easy reach of Guildford. More

picturesque, perhaps, and certainly less frequented, are East and West *Clandon*, and East and West *Horsley*, to which the Leatherhead Road leads, passing, *en route*, Clandon Park, Lord Onslow's Surrey home. Before reaching Clandon Park, however, we pass through *Merrow*, where the old inn, close to the church, boldly calls attention to its date (1615). Its gables and its grouped chimneys are features which the passer-by is sure to notice.

#### (4) EASY EXCURSIONS.

Here we may make brief mention of other journeyings for which the town's excellent train service, as well as the new Motor Omnibus service, afford facilities.

*Godalming* is little more than a ten minutes' ride from Guildford Junction; and Charterhouse, in its new home on the Surrey hills, should alone suffice to attract the visitor. Permission can generally be obtained at reasonable hours to see the chapel, the museum and the library, and much else that is of interest. And Godalming has other attractions in its church and pleasant surroundings on which time may be agreeably spent. Four or five miles farther on the direct Portsmouth line is *Witley*, where we can wander at will among the pines, or stroll across Hambleton Common—a roundabout route to *Chiddingfold*, with its old inn, its picturesque smithy and its characteristic village green. Here, too, we are at the entrance

to the 'fold' country; *Dunsfold* and *Alfold* are well worthy of our attention. *Haslemere* (12 miles from Guildford), of course, suggests Hindhead and Blackdown, and the lovely country that lies on the Sussex border.

*Farnham*, reached by the branch that connects Guildford with the Alton, Winchester and Southampton line, should certainly be visited if only for its castle, and its memories of Cobbett and Toplady. *Moor Park* and *Waverley Abbey* should, however, on no account be missed. From Farnham, too, a delightful excursion can be made by road to *Frensham* and *Churt*, and thence to Hindhead.

In the opposite direction the South-Eastern line will take us to *Dorking*, rich in attractions to all who wish to explore some of the best-known Surrey hills. *Box Hill* (recently purchased for the Nation by Mr. Leopold Salomons) lies immediately to the north of the town, and is an easy walk from Box Hill Station. *Ranmore*, with its lovely church and its picturesque common, will be found on the hills just above Dorking (South-Eastern Railway) Station. *Leith Hill* is nearly four miles to the south of the town, and the visitor who approaches it by Coldharbour, and returns by Friday Street and Holmbury St. Mary, will have a delightful day's excursion.

*Leatherhead*, from which *Mickleham* and *Norbury Park* may be approached from the north, can also be reached from Guildford direct by rail or motor 'bus.

There are excellent facilities also for trips by rail to Weybridge and the Thames Valley, and to Windsor, by through trains from Woking.

The Sussex border and Horsham are served by the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway from Guildford Junction Station.

#### (5) HINTS FOR CYCLISTS.

Motorists and cyclists hardly need to be assured that in excellence of surface, as well as in the beauty and variety of the country through which they pass, the chief roads in West and Mid Surrey will compare favourably with any in the South of England. All the centres of interest named in the previous section can be reached by main road, but we may specially emphasise the fact that the majority of the lanes and by-roads in the Guildford district will be found at least equally attractive by the cyclist, who, with the help of a good map, can advantageously explore almost every nook and corner of the neighbourhood.

The following is a table of distances by main routes :

London, *via* Ripley and Kingston, 29 miles; *via* Leatherhead and Epsom, 30 miles.

Dorking, *via* Shalford and Shere, 12 miles.

Aldershot, *via* Normandy, 10 miles.

Portsmouth, *via* Godalming and Hindhead, 42 miles

Windsor, *via* Chertsey and Egham, 22 miles.

Brighton, *via* Horsham, 40 miles.

Reading, *via* Normandy and Wokingham, 21 miles.

Winchester, *via* Farnham and Alton, 38 miles.

# Points for Residents.

## (1) PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

THERE is no need, of course, to give in these pages the full local memoranda which will be found in the local directories. But the prospective resident may like to be informed of part of the town's equipment for both municipal and social life.

The Town Council now consists of six aldermen and 18 councillors ; the borough's high officials include, in addition to the Mayor, a High Steward (Sir Harry Waechter, Bart.) and a Recorder (Mr. George Cave, K.C., M.P.).

Guildford is richly endowed in the matter of pleasure and recreation grounds. In addition to the Castle Grounds, already referred to, there is a delightful sylvan retreat in Rack's Close (the gift of Ald. L. A. Ellis, J.P.) reached by way of Warwick's Bench or Quarry Street ; another beautifully wooded pleasure ground comprises part of the Allen House grounds (the gift of Mrs. Broad) and the Quarry in York Road (the gift of Mr. C. Hoskins Master, J.P.) ; whilst in Woodbridge Road, thanks to the generosity of the High Steward, the town possesses one of the finest sports grounds in the south of England ; and there is yet another

recreation ground in Stoke. Other public possessions include the Baths (swimming and private) in Castle Street, the spacious Cattle Market and the Corn Exchange, both in Woodbridge Road, the Borough Police Station, North Street, and fire station (the equipment of which includes a motor fire engine) also in North Street.

The places of worship include the Churches of Holy Trinity, St. Mary, S. Nicolas and St. Saviour, Christ Church, St. John-the-Evangelist (Stoke), St. Luke's Mission Church (Charlottesville) and Emmanuel Church, Stoughton. The Roman Catholic Church is in Chertsey Street. The Congregationalists, Wesleyans, Baptists, Primitive Methodists, Unitarians and the Friends all have places of worship in the town.

The County Club in the High Street, next to Holy Trinity Church, has excellent accommodation. The Guildford Institute in North Street, with good reading rooms and a well-stocked and growing library, has a membership numbering between 1,500 and 1,600.

The Royal Surrey County Hospital is situate in the Farnham Road, Guildford.

The interests of the trade of the town are looked after by the Guildford Chamber of Trade—offices, 148, High Street—with Messrs. W. Triggs S. Turner and A. C. Yorke as its secretaries.

The London County and Westminster, the Capital and Counties, the London City

RACK'S CLOSE.

*Lanham, Guildford.*



and Midland, Lloyd's and Barclay's Banks all have branches at Guildford.

The Surrey Archaeological Society has its headquarters here, and the interesting museum, under the joint management of the Town Council and the Society, and which has been considerably enlarged through the munificence of Ald. F. F. Smallpeice, J.P., is, as already stated, to be found at Castle Arch.

## (2) EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

These are in every way adequate and up to date. The Grammar School has made remarkable strides since its restoration in 1889-90, and, with the co-operation which has been extended by the Surrey County Council, constitutes an excellent day school for boys. Through the generosity of Mr. H. A. Powell, J.P., it has been provided with a splendid playing field of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres immediately opposite the school. The Girls' High School, established under the auspices of the Church Schools' Company, and now under the control of a local committee, occupies modern and specially designed premises, near the London Road Railway Station, and has taken rank among the most successful schools of its class in the county. A handsome new school with accommodation for 235 girls has been erected in Farnham Road by the Surrey Education Committee as a Secondary School for Girls of Guildford and the surrounding district.



Lanham, *Guildfrd.*] ARCHÆOLOGICAL MUSEUM AND CASTLE ARCH.

*Lanham, Guildfrd.]*

A spacious and fully-equipped Technical Institute, for work in both science and art, and engineering and commercial classes, erected and managed by the Borough and the County Authorities, stands on a site between Park Street and Farnham Road, facing the entrance to Guildford Junction Station.

### (3) RAILWAY FACILITIES.

Guildford is served at the Junction Station by three railway companies, the London and South-Western, the South-Eastern and Chatham, and the London, Brighton and South Coast.

The first-named affords the most direct route from London, and its trains *via* Cobham and *via* Epsom and Leatherhead also call at the London Road Station at the east end of the town. There is also a good service with Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight.

The South-Eastern affords communication with Dorking, Reigate, Redhill, Tonbridge, and the Kent watering-places, on the one hand, and with Reading and Berkshire on the other.

The Brighton Company's line to Horsham connects Guildford with that company's Mid-Sussex service and brings within easy reach the many fashionable and charming watering-places in the Sunny South. Special facilities are offered for visiting Brighton, Eastbourne, Hastings, St. Leonard's, Worthing, Littlehampton and Bognor, as well as the Isle of Wight.

The Great Western and Great Central

through expresses to the Kentish coast from the North and the West stop at Guildford Junction.

#### (4) FACILITIES FOR RECREATION & SPORT.

Ample opportunity is given for every branch of sport at Guildford. We have



*Robinson, Guildford.*

GOLF CLUB HOUSE.

already touched upon the facilities for boating, but we should also mention that the angler will find good sport in the Wey, and that the Guildford Angling Society efficiently looks after his interests.

The Sports Ground in Woodbridge Road supplies an admirable *locale* for cricket, football, tennis and bowls. It is open to the public free on Sundays and Mondays, and its use can be obtained on

other days by arrangement with the town clerk. Bowls may also be played on the Castle Grounds Green, on payment of two-pence per hour, which includes the use of bowls. Promenade concerts are held in the Castle Grounds at intervals throughout the summer.

Golfers will find Guildford an excellent centre. The Guildford Golf Club, with which a Ladies' Golf Club is associated, possesses a commodious and well-planned club house, and very fine links on Merrow Downs. Within easy access of the town also are the Bramley Golf Club's links, an 18-hole course of a sporting character. This club, which has lately been established, is not so restricted in its membership as the Guildford Club. There is also a capital nine-hole course in Shalford Park, which is open to visitors.

The hunting man will experience no difficulty in getting capital sport near at hand during the season.

Cricket, football, tennis and rifle clubs, too numerous to specify here, are among the well-established organisations of the town. Below we give a list of the chief clubs with their headquarters :—

Surrey Motor Cycle Club,	Angel Hotel.
Guildford Cricket Club,	Sports Ground, Woodbridge Road;
"	Football Club, Railway Hotel.
"	Rifle Club, Angel Hotel.
"	Rowing Club, Railway Hotel.
"	Tennis Club, Woodbridge Road Ground.
"	Pit Farm Tennis and Croquet Club, Pit Farm Road.
"	Angling Society, Guildford Institute.
"	Bowls Club, Prince of Wales Hotel.
"	Swimming Club and Life Saving Society, Stoke Hotel.
"	Charlottesville Cycling Club, Charlottesville Institute.
"	Chess Club, Guildford Institute.

# Picturesque Guildford.

## WHY GUILDFORD IS HEALTHY.

By R. W. C. Pierce, M.D., B.Sc. (Lond.), Medical Officer of Health.

GUILDFORD has at least two of the most essential natural features of a healthy town, viz., (1) It is situated on the declivity of a hill; (2) It is built almost entirely on the chalk.

The importance of the former cannot be over-estimated, since it ensures the rapid drainage, not only from the surface but also from the subsoil, of all superfluous water, which in the Guildford area passes into the river Wey which flows through the valley. This rapid drainage, combined with the recognised advantages of chalk as a dry and healthy subsoil for dwellings, is a sufficient guarantee that the town is free from dampness, the usual level of the subsoil water in the chalk lying at a considerable depth.

The estimated population at the Census of 1911 was 23,820.

The rainfall is low—the average being about 26 inches.

The town is well sewered, and the sloping character of the district affords an ample fall, thus preventing any stagnation in the sewers. The sewers are system-

atically flushed at frequent intervals. The sewage farm is situated some distance down the valley.

The waterworks are owned by the Corporation, and there is an abundant and constant supply of good water. Additional sources have been recently secured by means of boreholes over 300 feet deep, which are capable of yielding over a million gallons a day.

The statistical evidence of the healthiness of the district is partly afforded by the low general death rate compared with the average for England and Wales. The average general death rate for Guildford during the five years 1908-12 was 10·6, as compared with an average for England and Wales during the same period of 14·1 per 1,000 population.

Another acknowledged test of the sanitary condition of a locality is the amount of the infantile mortality. In a report issued by the Local Government Board on infant and child mortality it is stated that, as compared with 111 similar towns, Guildford had the *second lowest* death rate for children under one year (infantile mortality) during the years 1907-10, and the *lowest* death rate for children from one to five years of age. The average borough infantile mortality during that period was 70 per 1,000 births, as compared with 114 for England and Wales.

Additional evidence is contributed by the zymotic death rate, which for the five years 1908-12 averaged .55 in the case of Guild-

ford, and 1·28 per 1,000 population for England and Wales.

Finally, the amount of typhoid fever in a locality is held to be a good index of sanitation, and from this test also Guildford comes out extremely well, as only an average of two cases per annum were notified during the years 1905-12, and four of these were caused by eating a batch of polluted cockles sent by a friend at the seaside, whilst most of the remainder were also imported cases.

There are no large factories in the town which would be liable to pollute the atmosphere by smoke and effluvia; the only works of any size being breweries, printing works, motor-car works, and mineral-water works.

The district is provided with an Isolation Hospital for the ordinary infectious diseases, as well as a hospital for any cases of small-pox that might arise. The latter is situated on a common about three miles from the town.

A refuse destructor has been erected at the sewage works, which serves not only for the efficient disposal of all the town's refuse, but also supplies the power necessary for lifting the sewage.

The roads are kept in good condition, are well watered when necessary, and are frequently scavenged, and the whole town is under efficient sanitary administration.

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40	£310	£514	£516

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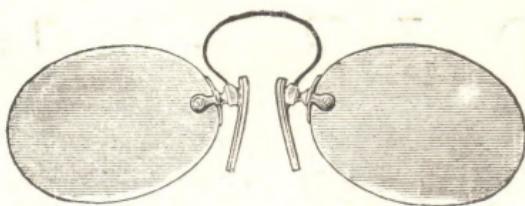
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